

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 SCA-01 SS-15  
NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02  
USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 /076 R

DRAFTED BY EA:TJBARNES/RLDAVIS:FLW  
APPROVED BY EA - MR. OAKLEY  
EA/K - MR. MAYHEW  
D/HA:SCLOWMAN

-----111360 120408Z /21

P R 120028Z AUG 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS STATE 190640

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: INDOCHINESE REFUGEE BOAT CASES: APPROACHES TO  
COUNTRIES OF FIRST ASYLUM

REF: SEOUL 6595

1. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AUGUST 11 MADE A DETERMINATION TO PAROLE INTO THE UNITED STATES 15,000 INDOCHINESE, INCLUDING 7000 BOAT CASE REFUGEES. HIS DETERMINATION SHOULD LIGHTEN REFUGEE PRESSURES IN COUNTRIES OF FIRST ASYLUM. IT PROVIDES THE BASIS FOR A RENEWED APPEAL TO EXTEND HOSPITALITY TO BOAT CASE REFUGEES.
2. THE PRESIDENT, KEY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS, THE PRESS, AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC HAVE EXPRESSED GRAVE CONCERN OVER THE

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PLIGHT OF THE BOAT CASE REFUGEES. ACCOUNTS OF EXTENSIVE SUFFERING AND LOSS OF LIFE REACHED A CRESCENDO IN JUNE AND JULY. THEY CENTERED ON SHIPS AT SEA THAT PASSED UP REFUGEES IN DISTRESS, AND ON SOME COUNTRIES AROUND THE PERIPHERY OF THE SOUTH CHINA SEA THAT FORCED BOATS BACK OFFSHORE, OR REFUSED TO ALLOW TO DEBARK IN THEIR PORTS THOSE REFUGEES THAT SHIPS HAD ALREADY RESCUED. THERE IS

MUCH MORE DOMESTIC CONCERN OVER THE ISSUE THAN DURING THE  
1976 REQUEST FOR THE EXPANDED PAROLE PROGRAM.

3. SOME COUNTRIES OF TRADITIONAL IMMIGRATION ARE  
CONTINUING OR EXPANDING THEIR EFFORTS. FRANCE HAS  
AVERAGED AN INTAKE OF ABOUT 1000 INDOCHINESE REFUGEES  
PER MONTH SINCE MAY 1975. AUSTRALIA HAS JUST ESTABLISHED  
A REFUGEE OFFICE IN BANGKOK. AUSTRALIA, IN ADDITION TO  
THE SOME 3000 INDOCHINESE REFUGEES IT HAS ALREADY TAKEN  
IN, PLANS TO ADMIT 150 PER MONTH FOR AT LEAST A YEAR  
STARTING IN SEPTEMBER 1977. NEW ZEALAND ANNOUNCED JULY 26  
THAT IT WOULD SHORTLY ACCEPT UP TO 70 FAMILIES, OR SOME  
420 INDIVIDUALS. CANADA, WHICH HAS ALREADY TAKEN IN SOME  
7000, RECENTLY INFORMED THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER  
FOR REFUGEES THAT IT WOULD ACCEPT 450 MORE. DENMARK  
ANNOUNCED IN EARLY AUGUST THAT IT WOULD ACCEPT 50 BOAT  
CASES. THE UNITED STATES, WHICH HAS ABOUT 146,000 IN  
COUNTRY, WILL TAKE 8000 FROM THAI CAMPS, IN ADDITION TO  
7000 BOAT CASE REFUGEES.

4. EMBASSY SHOULD EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR PAST COOPERA-  
TION ON REFUGEES. REGARDING YOUR 6595, YOU MAY ASSURE THE  
ROK THAT OUR BOAT CASE PROGRAM SHOULD SHORTLY ADDRESS  
THE PROBLEM OF BOAT CASE REFUGEES IN KOREA, AND IS LIKELY  
TO RESULT IN THE MOVEMENT OF NUMBERS OF THEM TO THE  
UNITED STATES. CHRISTOPHER  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Drafter:** TJBARNES/RLDAVIS:FLW  
**Enclosure:** DG ALTERED  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Subject:** INDOCHINESE REFUGEE BOAT CASES: APPROACHES TO COUNTRIES OF FIRST ASYLUM  
**TAGS:** SREF, XC, US  
**To:** SEOUL  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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